

Border Eagle

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'



Air Power
Quote of the Week

“In the development of air power, one has to look ahead and not backward.”
—Brig. Gen. Billy Mitchell

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Photo by Guillermo Lopez

Under the hood

First Lt. Will Hartman, instructor pilot, explains the T-6 Texan II instrumentation to several of the honorary commanders during a preview of Laughlin's newest aircraft Monday. The Honorary Commanders Program matches local civic and business officials with Laughlin commanders to further everyone's knowledge of Air Force and local business operations. The T-6 Texan II is scheduled for its operational debut here Nov. 15.

Laughlin's role critical in 55-year Air Force history

Compiled from staff reports

The Air Force has distinguished itself in many historic battles and operations since President Harry Truman established it as a separate branch of the United States Armed Forces in 1947; Laughlin Air Force Base, which was activated and assigned to Air Training Command in 1952, has played an important role throughout this rich history.

According to Rob Poteat, 47th Flying Training Wing historian, the achievements logged by Laughlin are extremely important to the U.S. and should be remembered as the Air Force celebrates its 55th birthday this month.

“Not only has Laughlin trained thousands of pilots who have flown in memorable battles and operations throughout Air Force history, this base has lived up to its motto since it truly does ‘Train the World’s Best Pilots.’ Not only are they the best, they are some of the bravest.”

Poteat points to 2nd Lt. Jack T. Laughlin, the late World War II pilot Laughlin Air Force Base is named after. He

See ‘History,’ page 5



POW/MIA Day ceremony, air power call scheduled today

Compiled from staff reports

Today is POW/MIA recognition day across the Department of Defense. To memorialize this day, Laughlin will hold an air power call at 4 p.m. in the Anderson Hall auditorium.

The guest speaker for

the event will be retired Air Force Col. James Lamar, who was a prisoner of war in Hanoi from May 1966 until February 1973.

The colonel will give remarks, followed by a question and answer session. Following the air power call, there will be a formal retreat

ceremony at 5 p.m. in front of the 47th Flying Training Wing headquarters building.

Events will include comments from Colonel Lamar, a wreath-laying and a missing man T-38 flyover.

Col. Dan Woodward, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, invites all

Laughlin people to attend these events.

“Those who have gone before us shall never be forgotten,” he said. “And people like Colonel Lamar are excellent examples of the indomitable spirit of Americans. Please join us in honoring our POW/MIAs.”

The inside
Scoop

Viewpoints:

The 85th Flying Training Squadron commander explains why we owe so much to our Founding Fathers.

Page 2

News:

Laughlin welcomes the new commander for the 47th Mission Support Squadron.

Page 7

Lifestyles:

A member of the 84th Flying Training Squadron is featured as the *Border Eagle* XLER.

Page 15

Countdown to ORI:

11 weeks



Commanders' Corner

By Lt. Col. David Turner
85th Flying Training Squadron commander

Those men in Philadelphia: *We owe them a lot*

As of last year, September will have increased historical significance, which is altogether proper given the tragic events that occurred. However, I suggest that September should have always held a special place for all United States citizens. Why? Because 215 years ago, on Sept. 17, 1787, 38 men signed a document that each of us in the military swears to defend. That document is, of course, the Constitution of the United States.

When the Americans won their independence from Great Britain in 1783, they lived under what was known as the Articles of Confederation. These articles were adopted during the Revolution and created a confederation of independent and loosely associated states. Under the Articles, the national government was very weak, almost to the point of being useless. There was a single branch of the legislature and it possessed almost all the power that existed at the national level, a couple of undermanned and powerless "departments" that reported to the Congress, no method for generating revenue and little coercive power to get the states to follow the laws.

The states were also creating trouble. Several were not adhering to the requirements of the treaty that had ended the Revolution, thereby causing international problems that the national government was powerless to remedy. Others passed laws that seemed contrary to everything that the Americans had just fought. With a very weak national government that had very little support from the people at large and state governments acting very imprudently, many members of the revolutionary generation believed that anarchy was just around the corner. Their dream of a

land ruled by republican principles seemed to be vanishing into thin air. What were they to do? Well, to make a long story short, they decided to convene a meeting to amend the Articles of Confederation.

This meeting, which became known as the Constitutional Convention, began in May 1787 at the Statehouse in Philadelphia. Those attending included George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, etc., a veritable "who's who" of Founding Fathers. About the only big names missing were Thomas Jefferson and John Adams; both were busy doing diplomatic duty overseas. After electing Washington to preside over the convention, the delegates got down to work, and once they did it didn't take long for them to realize, collectively and individually, that they were going to do more than amend the Articles of Confederation. And boy did they ever. Luckily, they were not working from a blank slate. Each of the newly independent states had formed some type of republican government during the Revolution, and it was on the basis of these examples that most of the forms and functions of the national government were based.

It was not an easy process; there were hundreds of speeches, countless arguments, and eventually dozens of compromises. Tempers were often short because for much of the summer it was unseasonably hot. In addition, they often closed the windows to reduce the noise from the

street and to ensure secrecy, thereby making it that much more uncomfortable. Finally, after all the haggling there emerged on paper the basis for the government that we now all know.

Of course, even after the signing of the document on that historic Monday in September, the work was not done. It would take another nine months before the required nine states ratified the Constitution, and during that time millions of words would be written or spoken either advocating ratification or pushing for rejection. Out of those debates would come some of the most profound statements of political theory

***"Out of those debates
would come some of the
most profound statements
of political theory that have
ever been produced."***

that have ever been produced. Many of those essays and arguments are still used today when issues of constitutionality and "original intent" are raised.

To be sure, the process and the result were not perfect. We all know the Founders made a terrible error concerning the slavery issue. This country would pay a very dear price for this error some 70 years later. And while it is impossible to overlook this tragic mistake, the best and brightest of our greatest generation (my apologies to Mr. Brokaw) did a remarkable job of creating a document that has stood the test of time. The United States is recognized around the world, and has been since 1787, as the freest and most republican country in the world.

So next year, while watching your favorite team play football, take a few seconds second to remember those men in Philadelphia. You and I owe them a lot.



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Submissions can be e-mailed to:
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Do the world a favor and recycle this newspaper.

***"Excellence –
not our goal, but
our
standard."***

– 47th FFW motto

Happy birthday, Air Force!

By Dr. James G. Roche
Air Force secretary
and
Gen. John P. Jumper
Air Force Chief of Staff

Fifty-five years ago, President Harry Truman, with a visionary stroke of his pen, established the U.S. Air Force as a separate armed service. Since then, we have revolutionized the nature of warfare and enabled a new universe of discovery and operations in space. With its attributes of speed, range, stealth, awareness and precision, our nation's outstanding Air Force will continue to deliver global reconnaissance and air dominance, as well as the great deterrent power those capabilities make possible.

From the days of providing humanitarian relief during the Berlin Airlift to the historic display of airpower during Operations Desert Storm and Allied Force, and now in the war on terrorism, our airmen have served with extraordinary integrity,

selflessness, and dedication. Across the spectrum of operations, whether standing guard for deterrence, conducting joint combat operations, fulfilling our global expeditionary commitments, or defending the homeland, our Air Force has answered its nation's call. However, we cannot rest on our past successes. We must renew our commitment to adapt our current systems, modernize our force, and transform our air and space strategy to the challenges of this new era.

At the dawn of the 21st century, the importance of air and space dominance to the joint warfighter is clear. We owe much to the legends of airpower whose determination and vision resulted in an independent Air Force. Today we celebrate our heritage and look forward to a bright future thanks to airmen across the globe: active duty, civilian, Guard, Reserve, retirees, veterans and their families.

Happy Birthday to the world's premier air and space force, the U.S. Air Force!

How to rein in your inner workaholic

By Lt. Col. Bill Starr
Air Force Print News

One summer evening, shortly after arriving at my new assignment, my boss strolled by my house and saw my wife and children sitting on our front porch. He asked her where I was. My wife told him I was still at the office. When she relayed this to me, in the egotistical corner of my heart I secretly hoped he was impressed by my work ethic.

The next morning, my boss called me. And contrary to the kudos I expected, he told me anyone could be a workaholic and achieve great things professionally. He said he had hired me to perform and excel in not one but two areas: my professional and personal life.

This incident gnawed at the back of my mind and caused me to do a lot of introspection. I examined my professional, family and personal life and found that they weren't in balance. So I made a commitment to myself to work on achieving a better balance in these three areas. This is what my little voyage of self-discovery revealed to me.

My professional life. I've always been a competitive person by nature, and I don't think there are many people that hang around in our profession who aren't. I discovered over the years I had slipped into a pattern of late work hours, bringing work home, going in on the weekends and never quite mentally disengaging from the office. I justified this by trying to stay competitive with my peers and to make sure my work output was

beyond reproach. Don't get me wrong, mission dictates a lot of long, hard work for all of us and when duty calls, we must answer. However, I'm talking about putting in the long hours simply because it has become a habit that becomes the major focus in your life.

My family life. In conjunction with my slow drift into being a workaholic, I discovered that I had put in very little quality time with my family.

My personal life. Growing up, church and sports were a big part of my life. Over the years, without realizing it, I had reduced my worship to only the major holidays and my physical activity to the bare minimum required to pass the annual physical fitness test.

After looking at these three areas of my life and realizing things were sufficiently out of whack, I made a conscious decision to achieve balance. The first thing I did was to leave the office one day at (gasp) 4 p.m. It was a hard thing to do, but believe it or not, the office actually kept running without me and the world didn't come to an end.

I found out a very simple truth. I was a workaholic because I was afraid to fail in my professional life. What I discovered was that once I was able to take the risk to slow down at work and placed more emphasis on my family and personal life, my professional performance actually improved. I was able to get more done in less time. I was less stressed and was nicer to the folks at work, and, all in all, I enjoyed my life more.

Actionline 298-5351

This column is one way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely personal reply. It's also very useful in case more information is needed in order to pursue your inquiry. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.



Col. Dan Woodward
47th Flying Training Wing commander

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the Border Eagle.

Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation, and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.

AAFES	298-3176
Accounting and Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
Equal Employment Opportunity	298-5879
FWA hotline	298-4170
Hospital	298-6311
Housing	298-5904
Information line	298-5201
Legal	298-5172
Military Equal Opportunity	298-5400
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810

Airmanship

Intended to help all airmen articulate the Air Force's vision of aerospace power

What is the battlespace?

The battlespace is an artificial, conceptual way for a commander to look at his or her projected military operations. It is a way for commanders to consider all the relevant aspects of their operations.

Newslines

Girl Scouts

The Laughlin Girl Scouts are looking for members. Parents who think their daughters would be interested in joining the Girl Scouts should call Kathy at 298-7866 or Rita at 768-0971.

American Legion

The Del Rio/Laughlin American Legion Post 298 will hold its regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at “The Barn” across the highway from Laughlin’s main gate.

The discussion will be the District 21 Convention plans for October. All active-duty military members are eligible to join.

The American Legion is the largest military and veteran voice on Capitol Hill.

For more information, call Murry Kachel at 298-2097.

College registration

Park University is registering for the Fall II semester at the Laughlin education office Monday through Oct. 14.

For more information, call 298-3061 or 298-5593.

Chapel hoe down

The chapel will host a hoedown from 4 to 6 p.m. Sunday. The event will show base families what the chapel offers. Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks will be provided. Families may bring a side dish.

For more information, call the chapel at 298-5111.

CFC kickoff

The 47th Flying Training Wing begins its six-week Combined Federal Campaign Monday. The CFC is an avenue through which all federal employees can voluntarily express their concerns for others by donating to local, state, national or international charities. Employees have the right to contribute or not contribute – donations are 100 percent voluntary.

For more information on CFC, call Capt. Charley Parent at 298-5848 or Capt. Jesse Baker at 298-4287.

ORI preparation

Are IMPAC holders coordinating with specified agencies when purchasing items such as visual information, potential hazardous materials, and



Photo by Airman Yvonne Conde

Good IDEA

David McCracken, 47th Operations Group quality assurance inspector, demonstrates how a T-1 aircraft door was damaged when its staircase was lowered. McCracken and Jody Hollinsworth, formerly of 47th OG, replaced a damaged T-1A aircraft door with a skid plate. The two submitted the suggestion to the IDEA program to fix the damaged door instead of replacing it. The skid plate cost only \$50, while replacing the door would have cost \$8,000. The men each received \$2,500 awards for their suggestion. For more information on the IDEA program, logon to <https://ideas.randolph.af.mil>.

communication and computer equipment and software? Are all accountable equipment items purchased using IMPAC properly recorded on the organization’s accountable records?

Duty status reporting

Duty status reporting assists commanders in supporting peace and wartime mission requirements. The objective of duty status reporting is to capture and report all changes in a member’s duty status (i.e., hospitalization, AWOL, TDY to school, confinement, etc.) to ensure these changes, regardless of length, are reported immediately.

Commanders have always been required to account for their personnel. In addition, duty status reporting is the key to ensure Air Force personnel receive credit for TDYs they have performed. Duty status conditions are reported when an individual is projected to be or is in a duty status condition other than present for duty, as well as when he or she is subsequently returned to present for duty.

The commander’s support staff is responsible for ensuring all duty status changes are updated immediately. The military personnel flight has the responsibility for updating all contingencies. Duty

status is much more than a process to identify the availability or non-availability of personnel for duty. The availability of duty status information allows commanders and functional managers to make informed force management decisions by providing quick and accurate determination of names, numbers and types of unit personnel available for mission taskings.

For more information on duty status reporting, call Tech. Sgt. Lashinya Crivens at 732-5889.

Customer service closure

The Military Personnel Flight customer service office will close at 3 p.m. today for a commander’s call.

For more information, call 298-5276 or 5277.

Pride Store

The Pride Store is offering lawn care items for all base housing and mobile home residents. Currently, Round Up, Weed Be Gone, Miracle Grow, grass seed, fertilizer and water houses have been ordered and will be available in the next few days.

For more information about Pride Store supplies, call 298-4356.

‘History,’ from page 1

says that Lieutenant Laughlin is indicative of the strong spirit of pilots who would be trained at the small south-west Texas base named in his honor.

Lieutenant Laughlin was born in Del Rio and received a bachelor’s degree in business administration from the University of Texas. He joined the Army Corps Aviation Cadet Program in 1940. On Aug. 7, 1941, he married a woman named Mary Fundalakis. Then, in December of that same year, he left with a contingent headed for Java. They headed out across the Pacific, but because of Japanese gains throughout the entire western ocean area, were en route to the east.

The last letter written by Lieutenant Laughlin was postmarked in Africa Jan. 24, 1942. Five days later, his B-17 Flying Fortress was lost over the Makasser Straits on its first combat mission. He never met his daughter, Jackie, who was born to his widow at Randolph Field, Texas, in August 1942.

“People like Laughlin made the ultimate sacrifice in the defense of freedom, and we owe them a very special debt of gratitude, along with our prisoners of war and those missing in action,” said Poteat.

After the naming of this

base to honor Laughlin, many other pilots brought honor to this base, Air Force and America. Maj. Rudolf Anderson, who became a Laughlin and American hero during the Cuban Missile Crisis, was one of these pilots.

Major Anderson was among the Laughlin U-2 pilots who played a critical role during the Cuban Missile Crisis and was the sole combat casualty from the crisis.

Major Anderson of the 4080th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, was one of 11 U-2 pilots who performed high-altitude reconnaissance over Cuba during the now famous 13 days beginning Oct. 15, 1962. Along with Maj. Richard Heyser, Maj. Anderson photographed evidence of the missile buildup. Based on the evidence in these photos, the military was put on full alert Oct. 19, 1962. Then, on Oct. 27, 1962, Maj. Anderson was flying another reconnaissance mission over Cuba. He died when a Russian surface-to-air missile exploded near his aircraft, penetrating his pressure suit with shrapnel. His aircraft crashed into the island.

President John F. Kennedy told the world that Laughlin’s 4080th Strategic Wing contributed as much to the security of the United States as any other unit in history.

Though Laughlin Air



(Courtesy photo)

Martin B-26 Marauders sit on the Laughlin flightline in 1943. The Army Air Forces opened the Transition Flying School at Laughlin Jan. 1, 1943, to transition pilots into the Martin B-26 Marauder. Laughlin Field graduated 2,942 students as B-26 pilots between February 1943 and September 1945 when the base was deactivated.

Force Base continues to go through organizational changes, the mission has been the same since 1962 – to train pilots. Since that time, more than 12,000 pilots have pinned on silver wings here. These pilots have fought in many of the major battles throughout Air Force history.

Throughout the history of Laughlin AFB, several different aircraft have

landed and taken off from Laughlin flightlines. The U-2A, B-26 Marauder and RB-57D Canberra have all called Laughlin home. And in November, the T-6 Texan II will make its operational debut here.

“The aviation history of Laughlin is strong,” said Poteat. “And from what I can see, there is no foreseeable end to the strong aviation heritage of

Laughlin.”

Poteat said that when people are reflecting on Air Force history, they cannot help but think of Laughlin.

“Laughlin is built on the shoulders of giants,” he said. “The officers, enlisted and civilian people throughout our history have all worked together to make Laughlin an integral part of American history.”

New commander takes reins of 47th Mission Support Squadron

Compiled from
staff reports

Team XL recently welcomed a new commander to the 47th Mission Support Squadron.

Lt. Col. Jennifer Graham assumed command of the 47th MSS during a change-of-command ceremony Sept. 5.

Graham

Hometown: Upper Marlboro, Md.
Time in service: 16 years
Education: Bachelor of Science degree from the United States Air Force Academy; master's degree from San Jose State University; and the General Manager's Pro-

gram from Harvard Business School

Previous assignments: Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.; Onizuka AFB, Calif.; Air Combat Command at Langley AFB, Va.; National Reconnaissance Office at Washington, D.C.; Hickam AFB, Hawaii; Maxwell AFB, Ala.; and the Pentagon

Greatest feat: Graduation from the Air Force Academy

Leadership philosophy: There is always a better place to be and a better way to get there

Personal hero: Abraham Lincoln. He taught us the potential liberty and freedom could have on mankind



Graham

Favorite quote: "In their daily life, all are braver than they know" – Henry David Thoreau

Hobbies: Reading, running and writing

Bad habit: I probably work too much.

Hero awarded Air Force Cross

By Terry Walker
Air Force Print News

Senior Airman Jason D. Cunningham, a pararescueman who lost his life in Afghanistan while saving 10 lives and making it possible for seven others who were killed to come home, was posthumously awarded the Air Force Cross here Sept. 13.

The Air Force Cross is awarded for extraordinary heroism while engaged in action against an enemy of our nation. It is second only to the Medal of Honor.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper presented the Air Force Cross to Cunningham's wife, Teresa. Cunningham's parents, Lawrence and Jackie Cunningham, also received medals from Jumper.

Cunningham, a Carlsbad, N.M., native, joined the Air Force's elite combat rescue program and graduated pararescue technical training here in June 2001. He was deployed to Southwest Asia in February 2002.

On March 4, Cunningham was the primary Air Force combat search and rescue medic assigned to a quick reaction force in Afghanistan. The force was sent to rescue two American servicemen evading capture in austere terrain occupied by al-Qaida and Taliban forces.

Before landing, his MH-47E Chinook helicopter received rocket-propelled grenade and small-arms fire, disabling the aircraft and forcing it to crash-land. Crewmembers formed a hasty defense and immediately suffered three fatalities and five critical casualties.

The citation accompanying Cunningham's Air Force Cross reads, "Despite effective enemy fire, and at great risk to his own life, Airman Cunningham remained in the burning fuselage of the aircraft in order to treat the wounds. As he moved his patients to a more secure location, mortar rounds began to impact within 50 feet of his position.

"Disregarding this extreme danger, he continued the movement and exposed himself to enemy fire on seven separate occasions. When the second casualty collection point was also compromised, in a display of uncommon valor and gallantry, Airman Cunningham braved an intense small arms and rocket-propelled grenade attack while repositioning the critically wounded to a third collection point."

The citation continues, "Even after he was mortally wounded and quickly deteriorating, he continued to direct patient movement and transferred care to another medic. In the end, his distinct efforts led to the successful delivery of 10 gravely wounded Americans to life-saving medical treatment."

Cunningham was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery on March 11.

Blood donor restrictions also apply to retirees

Some military retirees may have been surprised to find that they are no longer eligible to give blood.

A substantial number of active-duty and retired military personnel cannot donate blood because of past duty assignments in the United Kingdom and Europe.

Officials from the Armed Services Blood Program, which provides blood products for military hospitals and military readiness purposes, have increased their efforts to educate retirees about the restrictions, which were implemented last fall.

In the past few months, many retirees have come forward to donate blood because of news reports calling for blood donations. However, some retirees cannot give blood because of standards implemented last fall by the Food and Drug Administration as a precautionary measure against exposure to the human form of mad cow disease.

These retirees, as well as some active-duty personnel, cannot donate blood because of duty assignments in the United Kingdom and Europe. The FDA restricted donations from people who lived or traveled in these places during specified time frames. Department of Defense officials issued a policy based on that of the FDA, which defers retirees, military personnel and family members who meet any of the following criteria:

- Traveled or resided in the United Kingdom from 1980 through 1996 for a cumulative period of three months or more
- Traveled or resided in Europe from 1980 through 1996 for a cumulative period of six months or more
- Traveled or resided in Europe from 1980 to the present for a cumulative period of five years or more
- Received a blood transfusion in the United Kingdom since 1980
- Received a bovine insulin product produced in the United Kingdom since 1980

“We want to stress that retirees who are eligible to donate should continue to give blood to ensure DOD supplies are met,” said Major Ronny Alford, deputy director for ASBPO.

To find out how you can give blood through the Armed Services Blood Program, people can contact their local military treatment facility.

For information on blood deferral policies and on risks associated with travel or assignment in the United Kingdom and Europe, visit the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine Website at <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/dhpw/>.

Interested in the Air Force?
Call Del Rio’s Air Force recruiter at 774-0911.

Please recycle
this newspaper.

If you know of or suspect Fraud, Waste and Abuse, call the FWA hotline at 298-4170.

Base lieutenants selected for promotion to captain

Compiled from staff reports

A promotion board that convened at Randolph Air Force Base June 10 selected 47 Laughlin first lieutenants to pin on captain bars.

“These outstanding lieutenants have proven they are ready to take the

next step as officers,” said Col. Dan Woodward, 47th Flying Training Wing Commander. “If you see any of them around base, pat them on the back and let them know we appreciate the outstanding work they have done and will do for us in the future.”



84th FTS

Ryan J. Adams
Denis M. Casaubon
Matt J. Gaines
Dennis R. Hargis
Morgan P. Hurt
Scott L. Jones
David L. Kierein
Wayne T. King
Kevin J. Ormsby
Christopher A. Sample
Matthew C. Stanley
Jeffrey V. Updyke
Kristi L. Waszak
Winston C. Wolczak

85th FTS

James E. Brunner
Kevin G. Douglas
Samuel K. Joplin
Michael C. Kirk
Jason T. Nalepa
Bradley R. Opp
John F. Rogers
Ronald M. Schoch
Scott Segal
Scott D. Silvester
Matthew N. Waszak

86th FTS

Garbriel M. Behr

Corbett H. Bufton
Vincent G. Danna
Nathan T. Day
William H. Dorsey
David C. Drane
Blake B. Johnson
Gaspar Oronoz
Christopher Vecchione
Michael M. Zwolve

87th FTS

Christopher D. Barth
Bradley J. Brumbaugh
Dixon D. Croft
Ryan M. Freeman
Glenn M. Gonzales
Sonny J. Hignite
Jason E. Obrien
Alan R. Wade

47th FTW

Paula F. Kurtz
Anne Tracy

47th OSS

David A. Fazenbaker
Rafael H. Garza Jr.
Blane S. Morgan

If you know of or suspect Fraud, Waste and Abuse, call the FWA hotline at 298-4170.

Laughlin’s student pilots earn awards

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 02-14 pilots recently received awards for their flying and academic accomplishments while in pilot training.

Order of Daedalians AETC

Commander’s Trophy

2nd Lt. Richard Schafer III
(Fighter/Bomber)

2nd Lt. Robert Radanof (Tanker/Airlift)

Distinguished Graduates

2nd Lt. Richard Schafer III
(Fighter/Bomber)

2nd Lt. Robert Radanof
(Tanker/Airlift)

2nd Lt. Nathan Phillips
(Tanker/Airlift)

Flying Training Award

2nd Lt. Richard Schafer III
(Fighter/Bomber)

2nd Lt. Robert Radanof
(Tanker/Airlift)

Academic Training Award

2nd Lt. Matthew Manning
(Fighter/Bomber)

2nd Lt. Robert Radanof
(Tanker/Airlift)

Outstanding Officer

1st Lt. Trevor Smith
(Tanker/Airlift)

Daedalian Award

2nd Lt. Justin Ginther
(Tanker/Airlift)

Deployed members complete playground for local children

By Staff Sgt. Marc Barnes

Operation Enduring Freedom

Volunteers at a forward-deployed location in the Arabian Gulf region completed hours of hard work in the blazing sun recently to build a playground for children in a neighboring town.

More than 100 volunteers participated in the project, which included removing jagged rocks and shattered glass from the site and then installing three playground sets and spreading sand around the new equipment.

This effort marked the end of a four-month process, which included planning the project, raising funds, shipping supplies from the United States, and countless hours of work by civil engineers here to construct the playground equipment before it was installed at the site.

The project began when Col. Ronald Shultz, a former 321st Air Expeditionary Group commander, visited the town and noticed dozens of children playing in empty lots. He asked local officials if servicemembers here could build playground equipment for the children. When the local officials said yes, Colonel Shultz started the ball rolling by forming a committee to plan the project.

“This project started before I arrived here,” said Col. Rick Carter, a former 321st AEG vice commander who worked on the project after Colonel Shultz returned home. “The (committee) felt this would be a good community event, so they started raising the money for the project.”

The committee held various fundraisers, but after raising more than \$4,400, realized the playground they hoped to build would cost much more than that. According to Colonel Carter, that is when several “heroes” stepped in.

Master Sgt. Lorne Peterson, a member of the Delaware Air National Guard who was deployed to the 321st AEG when the project began, told friends at Young Lumber Company in Wilmington, Del., what volunteers here were planning. When company officials heard about the committee’s efforts, they donated the lumber for the project.

“We would not have been able to purchase all the wood, so that was a great help,” Colonel Carter said.

The committee decided to use the funds they raised to pay for slides, swings, monkey bars, hardware and playground plans. By July 1, all of the materials needed for the project were ready for shipment from the United States.

When the materials arrived at the end of August, people working on the project faced what may have been the biggest obstacle yet – deciphering the playground plans and preparing the materials and playground site for construction.

Capt. Joe Morrissey, who is deployed to the 321st AEG from the 267th Combat Communications Squadron at Otis Air National Guard Base, Mass., was a volunteer during the project. He said the biggest payoff for him was seeing the town’s children enjoying the new playground.

“It was nice to be able to give something to the children,” Captain Morrissey said. “Now, they have something to play on when they get out of school, something that is better than what they had.”

Phoenix Readiness to become ‘graduate-level’ flag training

By Tech. Sgt. Scott Elliott

Air Force Print News

Expeditionary combat support personnel throughout the Air Force will soon have more opportunities to get “graduate-level training” in the art of building and operating an air base from scratch.

Phoenix Readiness, the Air Mobility Command-run training program operated by the Air Mobility Warfare Center at McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., has been designated by Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper for upgrade to a flag-level program. Flag exercises are designed to train all Air Force expeditionary airmen.

“A great deal of the Air Force’s integrated warfighting training is done during flag exercises, such as Red Flag and Blue Flag,” said Lt. Gen. Michael E. Zettler, deputy chief of staff for installations and logistics.

“Our Air Force today is expeditionary, and our prime operating environment is in a deployed state. It’s only logical that we take the Phoenix Readiness operation, fine-tune it, and make it our flag-level integrated training opportunity for deployed operations.”

According to Maj. Gen. Timothy A. Peppe, special assistant to the chief of staff for air and space expeditionary forces, Phoenix Readiness currently trains seven classes per year. Each class comprises 450 officers and airmen from more than 20 Air Force specialty codes.

“We hope to expand the number of AFSCs, and one could make the case that any deployable AFSC should (attend),” General Peppe said.

Lt. Gen. John R. Baker, AMC vice commander, said he applauded the designation of Phoenix Readiness as a flag-level program.

“One of the advantages of reaching officers and airmen from different ECS specialties through Phoenix Readiness is that, together, they will learn how to deploy as a cohesive expeditionary flight, squadron or wing,” General Baker said.

Airmen spend 12 training days at Phoenix Readiness, studying career-field and common-core tasks, pre-deployment planning, deployment sustainment and re-deployment activities the first week. The course also prepares leaders – group commanders through front-line supervisors – to deal with integrating and deconflicting the efforts of the various functions needed to build a base in an austere environment.

A field-training exercise completes the training by integrating all specialties into one military operation striving toward a single mission, General Peppe said.

“The last days include going to a bare-base site, taking equipment that’s packed up just as it would be on a pallet you unload from an airplane,” he said. “They have to break it down, erect their tents on wooden frames, set up their

See ‘Training,’ page 11

‘Training,’ from page 10

kitchens and their perimeters – the whole nine yards.

(They do) everything that goes with opening up a bare base.”

According to General Peppe, the Phoenix Readiness experience contributes heavily to the service’s expeditionary goals by creating better trained and more experienced airmen.

“The bottom line is (that) I’ve heard rave reviews from everyone, particularly from those who have gone to Afghanistan or some of the other places, and have (acquired) the skills taught at Phoenix Readiness,” General Peppe said.

“From the people I’ve talked to, the Phoenix Readiness graduate is better prepared to handle the task of setting up a bare-base than those who have not had the opportunity for this integrated

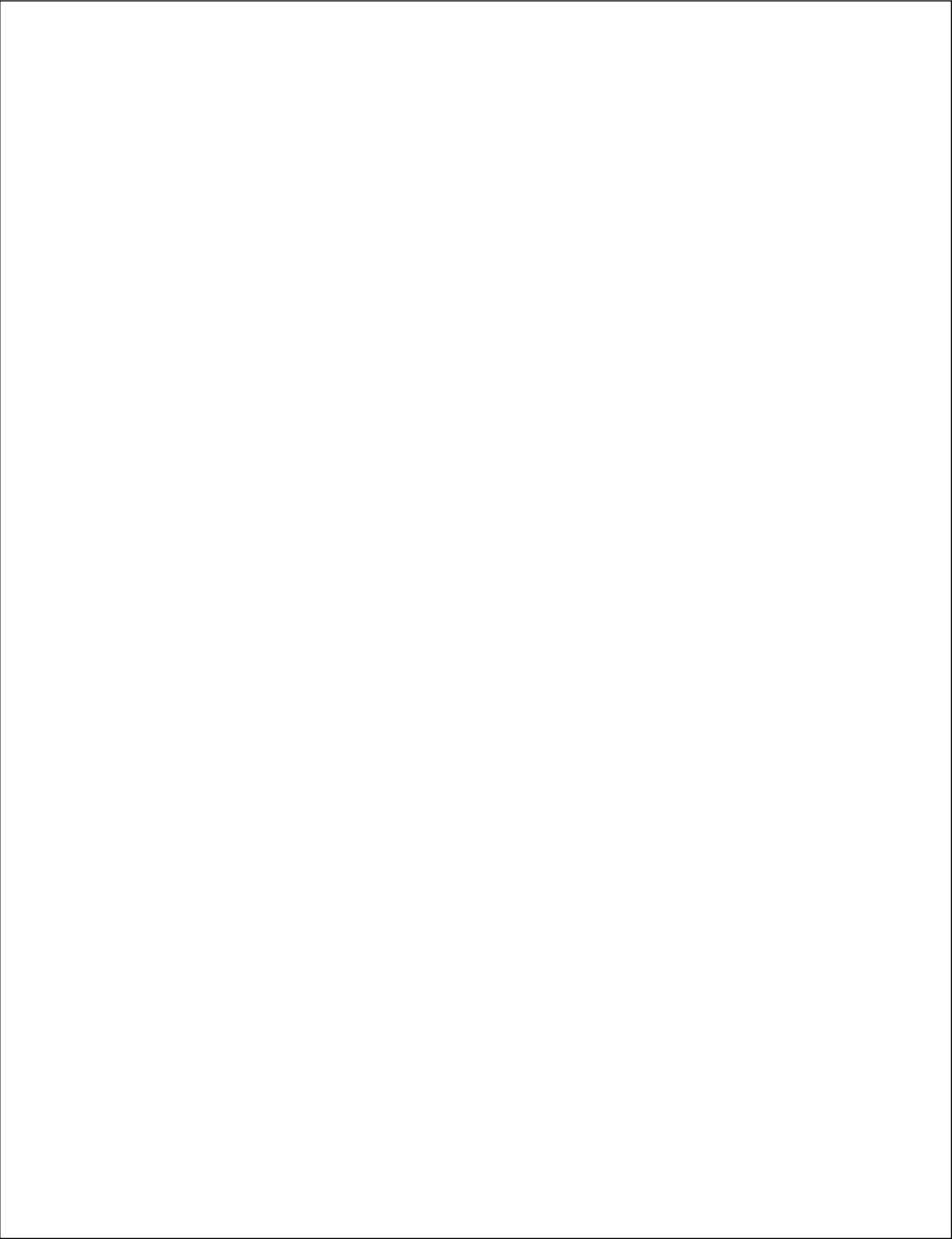
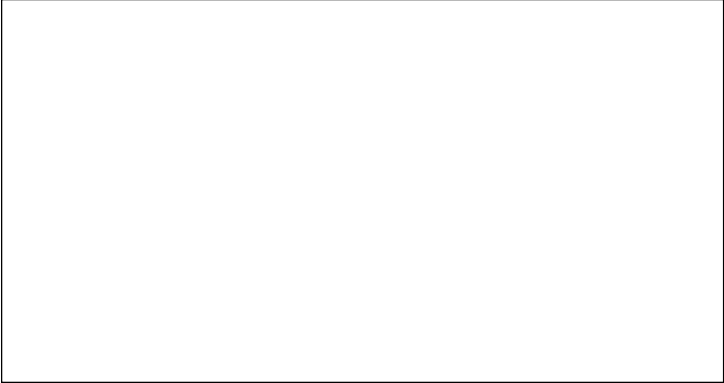
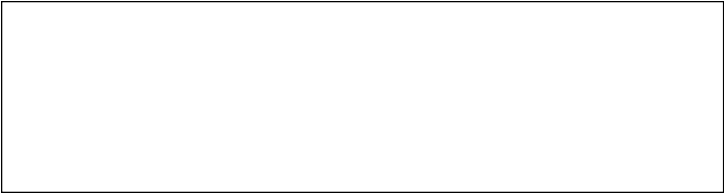
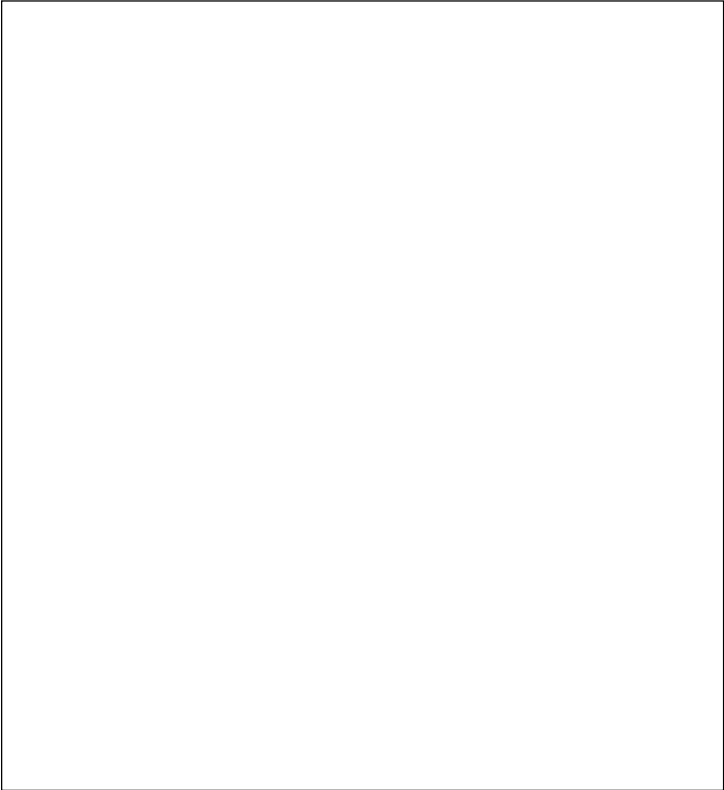
training,” he said.

Maj. Gen. Christopher A. Kelly, AMWC commander, said he is proud of the Phoenix Readiness program.

“Phoenix Readiness has steadily built a tradition of excellence for training the total force,” General Kelly said. “We stand ready to accept the challenges of our expanded mission to provide flag-level expeditionary combat skills training.”

The program is not mandatory for all deployable airmen, but General Peppe said such a requirement is being examined. In the meantime, Phoenix Readiness will expand to eight classes next year, then to ten classes by fiscal 2004.

While a new name for the flag-level exercise has not been determined yet, General Peppe said he is sure of one thing: “It’s a Red Flag for those people in the ECS arena. (It’s) graduate-level training.”



You don't know until you try it

Maj. Pete Roller, 86th Flying Training Squadron K Flight commander, tries some menudo at the Hispanic heritage breakfast at the Fiesta Community Center Monday. Menudo, which consists of a variety of ingredients, including tripe and calf's foot, is a staple of the Mexican diet. The Hispanic heritage breakfast is held annually to acquaint Laughlin people with the rich food recipes regularly enjoyed by much of the Hispanic community.



Photo by Senior Airman Brad Pettit

Chapel
Schedule



Catholic

- Saturday • 5 p.m., Mass
Sunday • 9:30 a.m., Mass
• 11 a.m., Little Rock Scripture Study in Chapel Fellowship Hall
Thursday • 6 p.m., Choir
Reconciliation • By appointment
Religious Education • 11 a.m. Sunday

- Jewish • Call Max Stool at 775-4519

- Muslim • Call Mostafa Salama at 768-9200

Nondenominational

- Friday • 7 p.m., Unity in Community Services
Every day • 12 to 1 p.m., sweet hour of prayer

Protestant

- Saturday • 6 p.m., Singles Bible study
Sunday • 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Sunday school
• 11 a.m., General worship
• 6 p.m., Officer Christian Fellowship, call 298-2238 for details.
Wednesday • 10 a.m., Women’s Bible study, children welcome
• 7 p.m., Choir at chapel

For more information on chapel events and services, call 298-5111.

The XLer

Hometown: Houston
Family: Father, Vaun; mother, Carla; brothers, Danny and Scott
Time at Laughlin: 1 year, 2 months
Time in service: 1 year, 6 months
Greatest accomplishment: Being able to finish two years of college before joining the military
Hobbies: Work and playing sports
Bad habit: Being too laid back
Favorite film: All war movies
Favorite musician: Jay-Z
If you could spend one hour with any person, who would it be and why? My grandfather. He was in the military also, and I would like to hear what he would say about the time he spent.



Photo by Airman Yvonne Conde

Airman 1st Class Steven Henry
84th Flying Training Squadron aviation resource manager



The Air Force rewards good ideas with money. Check out the IDEA Program data system at <https://ideas.randolph.af.mil>, or call 298-5236.

Laughlin people ‘spinning’ into shape

By **Airman Yvonne Conde**
Staff writer

All Laughlin people are invited to get pumped into the spin of things with a high-intensity, physical-conditioning class to be held Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. and Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. at the XL Fitness Center raquetball court.

Kathleen Barrett, certified fitness specialist and Spin instructor here, said the program was a collaborative effort of the XL Fitness Center, Health and Wellness Center and the National Aerobics and Fitness Training Association. The program is designed to provide a training service that will allow participants of the Fitness Improvement Program to be within standards and provide all active-duty personnel with a class to help them train for the ergonometry fitness test.

According to Barrett, the Spin class is a challenging, exciting and fun experience. While power cycling to motivating music, it allows avid exercisers to step into a new class that increases muscle strength and decreases body fat. Those who are bored with tradi-

tional modes of training will be introduced to a new form of exercise.

“The Spin class targets the lower body through repetitive isolated muscle contractions and cardiovascular endurance using an adjustable bike,” she said. “It is a fantastic whole-body workout. You’ll blast calories while increasing muscular strength and endurance.”

Spin classes typically last for one hour and are free to all Laughlin people who have access to the gym. The power-cycle bikes are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

“This class is full of enjoyment and challenges in a noncompetitive environment,” Barrett said. “I hope to see each participant come closer to overall health and wellness through the fitness training provided in this class.”

“Maintaining fitness is key to our overall health and wellness.”

For more information on the Spin class, call Kathleen Barrett at 298-5156 or the XL Fitness Center at 298-5251.

“The Spin class is a challenging, exciting and fun experience.”

***– Kathleen Barrett,
Spin class instructor***



Photo by Airman Yvonne Conde

Amy Frew-Kuhns, Spin class instructor, demonstrates a power-cycle workout at a Spin class Thursday.

Sportslines

Yoga classes

The health and wellness center is hosting prenatal yoga classes from noon to 1 p.m. Thursdays in the XL Fitness Center.

The classes will include a 10-minute introduction and warm up, 20-minute yoga/stretch, 15-minute strengthening/muscle toning and 15-minute relaxation techniques.

Classes are free. The instructor has certifications in prenatal fitness, power stretch and yoga.

Participants should take comfortable clothing, a yoga mat, pillow and plenty of water to class.

For more information, call the HAWC at 298-6464.

Fun walk

A Breast Health Awareness Fun Run/Walk is scheduled for 8 a.m. Oct. 11 beginning and ending at the football field. Winners in the male and female category of the 5K run will receive a health and wellness center prize package. The first 75 registered runners will receive T-shirts.

For more information, call the XL Fitness Center at 298-5251.

Base holds golf championship

Compiled from staff reports

The Leaning Pine Golf Course base championship was held Aug. 31 through Sept. 2.

Robbie Goodwin finished with 7-under-par, winning the overall base championship. He also set a new tournament course record with 6-under-par the first round of the tournament. Lee Howard went on to tie the record later in the tournament.

“It feels great,” said Goodwin. “I’ve been playing here since I was a kid, and winning is something I always dreamed of.”

The other championship winners

are listed:

Championship Flight winners:

First place: Hoppy Henegar and Bill Poindexter

Second place: Mike Clark

First Flight winners:

First place: Chris Blair

Second place: James Harper

Third place: Bennie Sanders

Second Flight winners:

First place: Chris McClain

Second place: Joe Mathew and Mario Trevino

All winners were awarded gift certificates from the golf course pro-shop.

If you know of or suspect Fraud,
Waste and Abuse, call the FWA
hotline at 298-4170.